

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1004  
By Ramsey

A RESOLUTION to urge the Basic Education Program Review Committee to study the TACIR index and other formula components including those related to at-risk students and English Language Learners.

WHEREAS, the Basic Education Program (BEP) Review Committee is charged with making recommendations on modifications to the BEP funding formula; and

WHEREAS, this formula should be structured to provide a fair and equitable means to distribute education funds to local education agencies; and

WHEREAS, this formula incorporates the fiscal capacity of local education agencies as an essential component of the formula; and

WHEREAS, this formula should be reviewed annually so that adjustments may be incorporated to reflect the changing needs of local education agencies and Tennessee students; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Task Force on Teacher Pay has included potential enhancement to BEP components for at-risk children and English Language Learners among its recommendations; and

WHEREAS, potential BEP formula changes may also be warranted to ensure the fiscal capacity of local education agencies is measured in a fair and rational way; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that this General Assembly urges the Basic Education Program Review Committee to conduct a thorough review of the formula components with a specific emphasis on those components related to funding for at-risk students and English Language Learners.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee also conduct an in-depth analysis of the fiscal capacity model, including its responsiveness to changing economic conditions in areas served by local education agencies and the appropriateness of its use in the formula.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee provide its written recommendations related to any changes in the formula by November 1, 2004, to the Governor, the State Board of Education, and the Select Oversight Committee on Education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an enrolled copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Executive Director of the State Board of Education in his capacity as Chair of the Basic Education Program Review Committee.